

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT, S/AS, OES(BORIGHT), AND ACDA(ROCHLIN)
FROM C. TILL

DOEHQ WASHDC PASS IA(GIAMBUSSO)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, TECH
SUBJECT: INFCE WORKING GROUP 5, SUB-GROUP D, MEETING OF
APRIL 6, 1978

1. WORKING GROUP 5, SUP-GROUP D (ALTERNATE BREEDER CYCLES)
MET THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 0900 HOURS, UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP
OF G. KESSLER, FRG, AS RAPPOREUR, IN A GENERALLY
CONSTRUCTIVE ATMOSPHERE. BELGIUM, FRG, ITALY, JAPAN,
SWITZERLAND, UK, AND THE US WERE PRESENT AS PARTICIPANTS,
PAKISTAN AND USSR AS OBSERVERS. REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE
CEC AND IAEA WERE ALSO PRESENT. PERHAPS SIGNIFICANTLY,
FRANCE WAS NOT REPRESENTED, ALTHOUGH THE RAPPOREUR
STATED THAT THEY MAY BE AT THE NEXT SUB-GROUP D MEETING.
US REPS WERE C. E. TILL (ARGONNE) AND A. V. NERO (ACDA).

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2. THE US-SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST OF CONTENTS
FOR THE SUB-GROUP D SUMMARY REPORT (THE "INTERNATIONAL
OUTLINE") WERE ADOPTED VERBATIM. (THE EFFECT OF THE
AMENDMENTS IS TO BROADEN THE SCOPE OF THE REACTOR
SYSTEMS CONSIDERED TO INCLUDE MIXED U/PU/TH SYSTEMS.)

3. ALTHOUGH THERE WILL BE SCATTERED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM

OTHERS, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE BULK OF THE SUB-GROUP D WORK AND THE QUALITY OF THE SG-D REPORT WILL BE DEPENDENT UPON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE FRG AND THE US.

4. SYMBIOTIC SYSTEMS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY.

5. SUB-GROUP D WILL INCLUDE THE MATERIAL DEALING WITH CLOSING THE FUEL CYCLE FOR THE THORIUM PORTION OF ALTERNATIVE CYCLES THAT WAS TURNED DOWN BY SG-B AT ITS MEETING. FURTHER, THE RAPPOREUR EXPRESSED THE WILLINGNESS TO MAINTAIN FLEXIBILITY TO INCLUDE OTHER MATERIAL RELEVANT TO SG-D CONSIDERATIONS THAT MAY BE REJECTED BY OTHER GROUP 5 SUB-GROUPS.

6. THE ITALIAN DELEGATE REQUESTED AND HAS ACCEPTED A CHANGE IN WORDING OF POINT D.4 IN THE SG-D OUTLINE FROM THE ORIGINAL WORDING OF "PROLIFERATION RESISTANCE OF U-TH FAST BREEDER FUEL CYCLES 'IN COMPARISON TO U-PU CYCLE'," TO "PROLIFERATION RESISTANCE OF U-TH (AND U-PU-TH FAST BREEDER FUEL CYCLES) 'ALONG THE SAME LINES AS DEFINED AND DISCUSSED FOR THE U-PU FUEL CYCLE IN SG-B AND SG-C.'" (THE SINGLE QUOTATIONS MARKS GIVE THE ITALIAN ALTERNATIVE.) THE CHANGE IN WORDING, WHILE NOT THAT SIGNIFICANT IN ITSELF, PROBABLY IS INDICATIVE OF A CONTINUING STRONG UNDERLYING ATTITUDE ON THIS SUBJECT. FURTHER ALONG THIS LINE, THE ITALIAN DELEGATE TWICE STRESSED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROVEN AND PAPER FUEL

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CYCLES.

7. A NUMBER OF ACTION ITEMS DEALING WITH SUB-GROUP INTERACTIONS WERE TAKEN ON BY THE RAPPOREUR. THE MEMBERS AGREED TO CONFIRM THE PAPERS TO BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE RAPPOREUR BY THE MIDDLE OF MAY. THE PAPERS SHOULD BE IN HIS HANDS AT THE END OF AUGUST.

8. THE RAPPOREUR SUGGESTED THAT THE MEMBERS CONTRIBUTING REACTOR PERFORMANCE DATA MEET IN EARLY JULY TO ACHIEVE SUFFICIENT CONSENSUS TO ALLOW SYSTEM STUDIES TO BE CARRIED FORWARD WITH CONSISTENT DATA SETS. AS THIS SEEMED LIKELY TO INVOLVE THE FRG AND THE US MAINLY, OR EVEN EXCLUSIVELY, HE VOLUNTEERED THAT THE GERMAN SIDE WOULD BE CONTENT TO HOLD SUCH DISCUSSIONS AT ARGONNE. OTHERS WOULD BE NOTIFIED, AND COULD ATTEND IF THEY SO WISHED. NO OBJECTION TO THIS SUGGESTION WAS RAISED.

9. A TIME FOR THE NEXT FUEL SUB-GROUP D MEETING WAS DISCUSSED BUT NO DATE WAS FIXED. IT WAS AGREED THAT SEPTEMBER IS ABOUT THE RIGHT TIME; THE RAPPOREUR WILL FIX THE DATE.

10. THE RAPPORTEUR STATED, IN HIS VIEW, THAT ALTHOUGH THE CONTRIBUTED REPORTS WILL BE EXPECTED BY SEPTEMBER 1, THE WORK OF THE SUB-GROUP WILL CONTINUE FOR AT LEAST A FEW MONTHS AFTER THAT DATE. IN PARTICULAR, THE SYSTEMS STUDIES WOULD BE COMPLETED ONLY AFTER CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER WORKING GROUPS AND SUB-GROUPS HAD BEEN RECOGNIZED AND FACTORED IN. LABOWITZ

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